

Remarks/Arguments

Claim 6 was amended to define the encapsulated structure by introducing the preparation method of encapsulation into claim 6. This is supported by the description of page 72, line 26 to page 73, line 12, and by the description of page 105, in the section of (1) Preparation of multi-branched structure compound encapsulating organic electroluminescent material.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claim 17 is canceled thereby mooting the rejection.

Claims 6-10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Bellmann (US 2003/0068525).

Claims 6, 8-10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Kitano (US 2004/0109955). Claim 7 is rejected as obvious over Kitano.

In order to distinguish the present claims from the description of Bellmann or Kitano, claim 6 is amended to include a product by process limitation which, as explained below, produces a different and superior product not disclosed or obvious in view of the art.

More specifically, the multi-branched structure compound (A) encapsulating an Ir phosphorescent compound (B) is prepared and isolated in advance to be contained in the light emitting layer. (The encapsulation of (A + B) can be confirmed by ICP mass spectroscopy.)

The product of the preparation method required by the claims is different from a simple dissolution of the multi-branched structure compound (A) and the Ir phosphorescent compound (B). The encapsulation of (A + B) cannot be achieved by the simple dissolution of (A) and (B), which is the method described in Bellmann and in Kitano. Furthermore, the product that results from this process limitation is unexpectedly superior, as shown in the evidence described in the DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132 of Hideo TAKA enclosed herewith.

Referring to the results shown in Table 3B, it is shown that when the multi-branched structure compound (A) encapsulated the Ir phosphorescent compound (B) in advance, the evaluation results were far superior to the corresponding organic EL sample which contains the multi-branched structure compound (A) and the Ir phosphorescent compound (B) without isolating.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present

invention is different from the prior art, and the superior results could not have been expected from the prior art.

Reconsideration is requested. Allowance is solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enc.: DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132  
of Hideo TAKA dated September 13, 2011